



## Research and Technology Advisory Panel Executive Committee Meeting

### Agenda

**Date:** Thursday September 20, 2007

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**Location:** Caltrans Headquarters

1120 N St., Sacramento

Director's Conference Room (1121)

<b>Meeting called by:</b>	Gen Giuliano, RTAP Chair
<b>Recorder:</b>	Tori Kanzler, Division of Research and Innovation
<b>Attendees:</b>	Susan Handy, Steve Ritchie, Dan Sperling, Brian Taylor, Pravin Varaiya
<b>Meeting Purpose:</b>	To report on committee activities

Time	Topic	Who
10:00 a.m.	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	Gen Giuliano
10:10 a.m.	<b>Approval of Minutes from 3/12/07 Meeting</b> (Attachment A)	Gen Giuliano
10:15 a.m.	<b>Action Items from 3/12/07 Meetings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caltrans Comments on "Key Questions for RTAP Committees" (Attachment B)</li> <li>• Ex-officio input</li> </ul>	Gen Giuliano / Nancy Chinlund
10:30 a.m.	<b>Committee Logistics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vary by Committee</li> <li>• Each Committee informs Executive Committee as to its members, structure, meetings</li> <li>• Projects vetted through Executive Committee</li> </ul>	Gen Giuliano
11:00 a.m.	<b>CCST-RTAP Partnership Proposal</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• California Council on Science and Technology (CCST) Meeting</li> <li>• Proposal (Attachment C – handout at meeting)</li> <li>• Timeline</li> </ul>	Gen Giuliano
11:45 a.m.	<b>Finance/Pricing Committee Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with Cindy McKim</li> <li>• Status of Governor's Office Action Request (GOAR)</li> </ul>	Brian Taylor/Jeff Ingles
12:15 p.m.	<b>Working Lunch</b>	All
12:45 p.m.	<b>Data Collection Concerns</b>	Pravin Varaiya
1:15 p.m.	<b>Meetings with Caltrans</b>	Steve Ritchie
1:30 p.m.	<b>Multi-Modal Integrated Corridor Management Workshop</b> (Attachment D – handout at meeting)	Nancy Chinlund/Eric Norton
2:00 p.m.	<b>Strategic Research Plan</b> (Attachment E – handout at meeting)	Nancy Chinlund/Eric Norton
2:25 p.m.	<b>Next Meeting</b>	Gen Giuliano
2:30 p.m.	<b>Adjourn</b>	

**Attendees:**

Committee Members: Gen Giuliano, Susan Handy, Dan Sperling, Brian Taylor, Steve Ritchie, Pravin Varaiya

CCST: Susan Hackwood, Anzell Loufas

BTH: Carol Farris

Caltrans staff: Agustin Rosales, Nathan Smith, Fred Dial, Jeff Ingles, Leslie Snow, Horacio Paras, Nancy Chinlund, Pete Hansra, Susan Harrington, Tori Kanzler, Dave Clark, Eric Norton

Not in attendance: Samer Madanat, Majed Dessouky

**Approval of Minutes from 3/12/07 Meeting – Approved**

**Action Items from 3/12/07 Meetings**

Status: DRI sent questions to Caltrans staff for edits. Tom West targeted key ex-officio member stakeholders for each of the questions, and he and Nancy met with them to determine their key needs. These identified needs can help frame what the committees will potentially address.

**Committee Logistics**

The RTAP needs to be selective with the projects they take on. Some chairs are more comfortable having a standing committee and others prefer to call in people ad hoc to meet the issue being discussed. The latter would focus attention around a project as opposed to a list of questions. If there is no business for the committee, they wouldn't need to meet. If a Committee finds a question they want to pursue, they can bring that forward to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee also has an advisory role to the CTC, for providing independent input.

**CCST-RTAP Partnership Proposal**

Susan Hackwood of the California Counsel on Science and Technology (CCST) gave an overview of her organization. CCST advises state government on science and technology issues. The Counsel is made up of leading scientists in academia and industry.

CCST received a request from Senator Lowenthal for assistance on goods movement planning and technology applications in goods movement. Gen Giuliano presented a proposal for partnering with CCST to respond to the Lowenthal request. Given RTAP's expertise and CCST's capabilities for conducting NAS-type studies, it was proposed that CCST and RTAP partner to develop a proposal in response to this request.

RTAP approved the partnership and draft proposal. Susan Handy and Brian Taylor volunteered to participate in Task 1. The entire RTAP committee would participate in Task 2. Caltrans committed start-up funding for the project.

The project will look at the need for goods movement planning and modeling capabilities. The first task will begin with a summary of the goods movement planning process and conclude with a workshop. The second task will be a workshop on existing and emerging technology. The third task will assess the need for tools and models for planning and technology.

### **Finance/Pricing Committee Report**

Brian Taylor reported on a meeting with Jeff Ingles, Nancy Chinlund, and Cindy McKim, Caltrans Chief Financial Officer, to discuss transportation finance problems within the state. The RTAP has the potential to be able to communicate the budget crisis, in a way that Caltrans can't. Two National Commissions are currently developing reports on transportation finance issues. The suggestion was made that RTAP release a statement concurrent with the release of the national reports.

RTAP Action: Find out when the national reports will be released. Review the reports, and decide whether it is appropriate for RTAP to issue a statement.

### **Data Collection**

Pravin Varaiya presented his concerns regarding data collection on the state highway system. He noted that reliable data are essential for implementing the GMP, yet there are many problems: obsolete controllers, high failure rates of detectors, etc. Caltrans representatives described recent support received: additional positions in Maintenance, \$150 million for detection from the CTC, and \$100 million from the SHOPP to deploy detection. However, these investments do not address broader technology and communication needs.

RTAP Action: After discussion, Pravin Varaiya and Steve Ritchie were requested to write a short report on detection and data collection problems for presentation at the next meeting.

### **Meetings with Caltrans**

Already Covered.

### **Multimodal Integrated Corridor Management Workshop**

Nancy Chinlund gave an update on the Corridor Management Improvement Act (CMIA); funds for 55 projects in 22 corridors have now been allocated. The Department is developing corridor management plans for each of the 22 corridors. She described workshops that will be held to assist local agencies in developing their CSMPs, and requested volunteers to assist in developing the workshop agenda.

RTAP Action: Steve Ritchie and Brian Taylor will assist Caltrans. Pravin Varaiya will recommend someone with traffic management expertise.

### **Strategic Research Plan**

Nancy Chinlund presented an overview of the Caltrans Strategic Research Plan and sought some comments on the plan. While the Panel commended the Department's commitment to research, they agree that the questions (in the Mobility Framework) are too broad, and have already been studied and answered. RTAP suggested that a key issue is communicating and integrating existing research into the organization. Several ideas were generated regarding how communication and implementation problems might be addressed.

RTAP Action: None

### **Next meeting**

December or January DRI will request feedback on when members are NOT available.

### **New Business**

Gen Giuliano proposed that the Panel name be changed to California Transportation Research and Technology Advisory Panel in order to clarify the scope and purpose of the Panel.

RTAP Action: Change of name unanimously approved.

